

That which is claimed:

1. A method for providing a status notification and reply for a message in a communications network comprising:

- (a) assigning a message identifier for said message;
- (b) receiving a destination identifier for communicating at least one of said status notification and said reply; and
- (c) associating said destination identifier with said message.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

- (d) creating a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event; and
- (e) associating said disposition identifier with said message.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

- (f) compiling said disposition identifier and said message identifier to create said status notification in response to a triggering event; and
- (g) communicating said status notification in accordance with said destination identifier.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

- (h) receiving said reply;
- (i) associating said reply with said message; and
- (j) communicating said reply in accordance with said destination identifier.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:

(k) billing a party to said message for said providing of said status notification.
6. The method of claim 2, wherein said disposition event comprises at least one of:

a managing event; and

a dispatching event.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

accessing said message;

deleting said message;

presenting an indication of said message;

expiring said message; and

terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.
8. The method of claim 6, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

denying said status notification of said message; and

malfunctioning of said status notification of said message.
9. The method of claim 6, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:

forwarding said message; and

replying to said message.

10. The method of claim 3, wherein said triggering event comprises at least one of:
said disposition event; and
a passage of time.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination identifier comprises:
an address identifier; and
a format identifier.
12. The method of claim 11, wherein said address identifier comprises at least one of:
an email address; and
an access address.
13. The method of claim 11, wherein said format identifier comprises at least one of:
an audio format;
a video format;
a text format;
a short message service format; and
a markup language document format.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network comprises at least one of:
an electronic communications network;
a text-based communications network;

a telecommunications network;

a video-enabled communications network; and

a multimedia-enabled communications network.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

a type identifier;

an alphanumeric identifier;

a capabilities identifier; and

an annotation.

16. The method of claim 1, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

a communication network identifier;

a device identifier;

a role identifier;

a party identifier;

a date identifier; and

a time identifier.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:

an originator;

a sender;

a caller;

a recipient; and

a system administrator.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:

an email address;

an access address;

a voice sample; and

an image.

19. The method of claim 2, further comprising storing an attribute for said status notification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

said message identifier;

said destination identifier;

said disposition identifier; and

said status notification.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

deleting said attribute;

monitoring said attribute;

moving said attribute;

forwarding said attribute;

securing said attribute;

archiving said attribute;

backing up said attribute;
informing a recipient of said attribute; and
blocking said attribute.

21. A system to provide a status notification and reply for a message in a communications network comprising:

- (a) a processor to assign a message identifier for said message;
- (b) said processor further operative to receive a destination identifier for communicating said status notification; and
- (c) said processor further operative to associate said destination identifier with said message.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein said processor is further operative to:

- (d) create a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event; and
- (e) associate said disposition identifier with said message.

23. The system of claim 22, wherein said processor is further operative to:

- (f) compile said disposition identifier and said message identifier to create said status notification in response to a triggering event; and
- (g) communicate said status notification in accordance with said destination identifier.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein said processor is further operative to:

- (h) receive said reply;
- (i) associate said reply with said message; and
- (j) communicate said reply in accordance with said destination identifier.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein said processor is further operative to:

- (k) bill a party to said message for said providing of said reply option.

26. The system of claim 23, wherein said triggering event comprises at least one of:

- said disposition event; and
- a passage of time.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein said disposition event comprises at least one of:

- a managing event; and
- a dispatching event.

28. The system of claim 27, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

- accessing said message;
- deleting said message;
- presenting an indication of said message;
- expiring said message; and
- terminating a recipient of said message from said communications network.

29. The system of claim 27, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:

denying said status notification of said message; and
malfunctioning of said status notification of said message.

30. The system of claim 27, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:
forwarding said message; and
replying to said message.
31. The system of claim 21, wherein said destination identifier comprises:
an address identifier; and
a format identifier.
32. The system of claim 31, wherein said address identifier comprises at least one of:
an email address; and
an access address.
33. The system of claim 31, wherein said format identifier comprises at least one of:
an audio format;
a video format;
a text format;
a short message service format; and
a markup language document format.

34. The system of claim 21, wherein said communications network comprises at least one of:

- an electronic communications network;
- a text-based communications network;
- a telecommunications network;
- a video-enabled communications network; and
- a multimedia-enabled communications network.

35. The system of claim 21, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a type identifier;
- an alphanumeric identifier;
- a capabilities identifier; and
- an annotation.

36. The system of claim 21, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:

- a communication network identifier;
- a device identifier;
- a role identifier;
- a party identifier;
- a date identifier; and
- a time identifier.

37. The system of claim 36, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:

an originator;
a sender;
a caller;
a recipient; and
a system administrator.

38. The system of claim 36, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:

an email address;
an access address;
a voice sample; and
an image.

39. The system of claim 22, said processor further operative for storing an attribute for said status notification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at one least of:

said message identifier;
said destination identifier;
said disposition identifier; and
said status notification.

40. The system of claim 39, said processor further operative to perform administrative functionality, wherein said administrative functionality comprises at least one of:

deleting said attribute;

monitoring said attribute;
moving said attribute;
forwarding said attribute;
securing said attribute;
archiving said attribute;
backing up said attribute;
informing a recipient of said attribute; and
blocking said attribute.

41. The system of claim 39, further comprising a data repository operative to store said attribute.
42. The system of claim 41, wherein said data repository comprises a database.
43. The system of claim 41, wherein said data repository comprises:
a first database for storing said message; and
a second database for storing said attribute.
44. A system to provide a status notification and reply for a voicemail message in an advanced intelligence network (AIN) comprising an intelligent peripheral operative to:
- (a) assign a message identifier for said message;
 - (b) receive a destination identifier for communicating a status notification; and
 - (c) associate said destination identifier with said message.

45. The system of claim 44, wherein said intelligent peripheral is further operative to:
- (d) create a disposition identifier in response to a disposition event; and
 - (e) assign said disposition identifier to said message.
46. The system of claim 45, wherein said intelligent peripheral is further operative to:
- (f) compile said disposition identifier and said message identifier to create said status notification in response to a triggering event; and
 - (g) communicate said status notification in accordance with said destination identifier.
47. The system of claim 46, wherein said intelligent peripheral is further operative to:
- (h) receive said reply;
 - (i) associate said reply with said message; and
 - (j) communicate said reply in accordance with said destination identifier.
48. The system of claim 47, wherein said intelligent peripheral is further operative to:
- (k) bill a party to said message for said providing of said status notification.
49. The system of claim 46, wherein said triggering event comprises at least one of:
- a disposition event; and
 - a passage of time.

50. The system of claim 49, wherein said disposition event comprises at least one of:
a managing event; and
a dispatching event.
51. The system of claim 50, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:
accessing said message;
deleting said message;
presenting an indication of said message;
expiring said message; and
terminating a recipient of said message from said AIN.
52. The system of claim 50, wherein said managing event comprises at least one of:
denying said status notification of said message; and
malfunctioning of said status notification of said message.
53. The system of claim 50, wherein said dispatching event comprises at least one of:
forwarding said message; and
replying to said message.
54. The system of claim 44, wherein said destination identifier comprises:
an address identifier; and
a format identifier.

55. The system of claim 54, wherein said address identifier comprises at least one of:
an email address; and
an access address.
56. The system of claim 54, wherein said format identifier comprises at least one of:
an audio format;
a video format;
a text format;
a short message service format; and
a markup language document format.
57. The system of claim 44, further comprising:
a service switching point functionally connected to said intelligent peripheral; and
an interface functionally connected to a service switching point and operative to
accept communications from a second communications network.
58. The system of claim 57, further comprising a mobile telephone switching office
(MTSO) functionally connected to said interface and operative to facilitate said status
notification and reply directed to a cellular device.
59. The system of claim 57, further comprising a computer network functionally
connected to said interface and operative to facilitate said status notification and reply
directed to a computer network client device.

60. The system of claim 57, further comprising a personal digital assistant communications network functionally connected to said interface and operative to facilitate said status notification and reply directed to a personal digital assistant.

61. The system of claim 44, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:
a type identifier;
an alphanumeric identifier;
a capabilities identifier; and
an annotation.

62. The system of claim 44, wherein said message identifier comprises at least one of:
a communication network identifier;
a device identifier;
a role identifier;
a party identifier;
a date identifier; and
a time identifier.

63. The system of claim 62, wherein said role identifier comprises at least one of:
an originator;
a sender;
a caller;

a recipient; and
a system administrator.

64. The system of claim 62, wherein said party identifier comprises at least one of:

an email address;
an access address;
a voice sample; and
an image.

65. The system of claim 45, said intelligent peripheral further operative for storing an attribute for said status notification for said message, wherein said attribute comprises at least one of:

said message identifier;
said destination identifier;
said disposition identifier; and
said status notification.

66. The system of claim 65, further comprising a service management system functionally connected to said intelligent peripheral, operative to perform administrative functionality comprising at least one of:

deleting said attribute;
monitoring said attribute;
moving said attribute;

forwarding said attribute;
securing said attribute;
archiving said attribute;
backing up said attribute;
informing a recipient of said attribute; and
blocking said attribute.

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